

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

3/24/04

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 189 (Hammerstrom)

SB 189 defines "licensed bachelor social worker" and "licensed master's social worker" as individuals licensed to engage in the practice of social work at the bachelor's and master's level.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 189 [RC 141: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 829 (Sanborn)

SB 829 would add 1 circuit court judgeship in Macomb County.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 829 [RC 142: 29 yes, 8 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1032 (Garcia)

SB 1032 would protect from public disclosure (under the Freedom of Information Act) certain confidential investment information received by a public university or college.

• SB 1032 passed [RC 145: 33 yes, 4 no].

HB 4179 (Shackleton)

HB 4179 require the \$25 Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage (EPIC) fee be returned to any applicant who does not qualify. Currently, the fee is non-refundable – meaning it is kept by the state.

• HB 4179 passed with IE [RC 146: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5104 (Van Regenmorter)

HB 5104 include the crimes of 1^{st} and 2^{nd} degree abuse of vulnerable adults that results in death as felony murder. This would increase penalties for individuals that commit abuse against vulnerable adults resulting in death to the level of 1^{st} degree murder, which is life imprisonment.

• HB 5104 passed with IE [RC 144: 36 yes, 1 no].

HB 5184 (Woronchak)

HB 5184 would require all new employees and contract workers of adult foster care facilities, whose work "would regularly would be providing direct services" to the residents, to submit to a criminal background check as a qualification for employment.

Support: MI Protection and Advocacy Service, MI Campaign for Quality Care, MI Advocacy Project, AARP, DLEG, the Administration.

- Hammerstrom 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Effective date of 8/1/04.
- Hammerstrom 2 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Technical change.
- HB 5184 passed with IE [RC 147: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 5280 (Ward)

HB 5280 states that, if a school is closed or vacated because of a bomb threat, school officials cannot require employees to remain in the building unless the employee has been trained to deal with bomb threats.

• HB 5280 passed with IE [RC 143: 37 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 1026 (McManus)

SB 1026 would designate the Friday in the second full week of May as "Michigan Manufacturing Day". To celebrate that day, Manufacturers would be encouraged to open their plants and facilities to young people, teachers, and parents to foster knowledge and appreciation of the historic, scientific, economic, and cultural significance of manufacturing in Michigan.

Support: Michigan Manufacturing Association.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 1026 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 1093 (Brown)

SB 1093 gives tax credits for new jobs. Technically, the bill allows an SBT credit for new jobs created after December 31, 2004 by companies with receipts of \$10,000,000 or less. A new (or "created") job is one which: did not exist the previous tax year, represents an overall increase in full-time employees from the previous years, and which is not a job into which a current in-state employee transferred.

As amended, SB 1093 would result in an estimated loss of \$10 million a year going forward. Treasury estimates a loss of \$6.67 million a year going forward.

Support: MMA, NFIB.

Oppose: MEA.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 1093 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5117 (Ehardt)

HB 5117 would require that, beginning October 1, 2005, clinical laboratories doing business in this state that analyze blood samples for lead would have to electronically report the results of the blood lead analysis to the Department of Community Health.

Support: Granholm administration, DCH, MI State Council of Junior Leagues, MI Lead Safe Partnership, Get the Lead Out (Grand Rapids), Michigan's Children, MI Environmental Council.

• HB 5117 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 5119 (WILLIAMS)

HB 5119 would require that at least 80% of children enrolled in Medicaid are tested for lead poisoning. Specifically, it would require the Department of Community Health (DCH) to ensure that, by October 1, 2007, as a condition of federal funding, all health professionals, facilities, or HMOs receiving Medicaid payments are in substantial compliance with federal lead screening standards (at least 80%).

SUPPORT: DCH, Michigan Association of Health Plans, MI State Council of Junior Leagues, MI Lead Safe Partnership, Get the Lead Out (Grand Rapids), Michigan's Children, MI Environmental Council, Detroit Lead Partnership.

• HB 5119 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 5479 (Howell)

HB 5479 would provide for 1 additional district judgeship in Mecosta and Osceola Counties effective January 1, 2005.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5479 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5480 (Howell)

HB 5480 would provide for 1 additional circuit judgeship in Clare and Gladwin Counties effective January 1, 2005.

• HB 5479 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

RESOLUTIONS

SR 22 (Hardiman) SCR 10 (Birkholz) SR 22 and SCR 10 urge the United States Supreme Court to reverse the decision of the Ninth United States Circuit Court of Appeals regarding the constitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance with the phrase "under God."

- SR 22 was adopted [RC 148: 32 yes, 2 no].
- SCR 10 was adopted [RC 149: 32 yes, 2 no].

SR 214 (Gilbert)

SR 214 urges the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Office of the Great Lakes to work with the EPA Great Lakes National Program Office to develop a pilot project to provide real-time monitoring of water quality for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SR 214 was adopted [no RC].